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U.S. PTO

PTO/SB/05 (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0032  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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**UTILITY  
PATENT APPLICATION  
TRANSMITTAL**

(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b))

Attorney Docket No. HO-P02925US0

First Inventor Mark S. Gasaway

Title JOINT CONNECTION

Express Mail Label No. ER509321505US

**APPLICATION ELEMENTS**

See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents.

1.  Fee Transmittal Form (e.g., PTO/SB/17)  
(Submit an original, and a duplicate for fee processing)
2.  Applicant claims small entity status.  
See 37 CFR 1.27.
3.  Specification [Total Pages 35]  
(preferred arrangement set forth below)  
- Descriptive title of the invention  
- Cross Reference to Related Applications  
- Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D  
- Reference to sequence listing, a table,  
or a computer program listing appendix  
- Background of the Invention  
- Brief Summary of the Invention  
- Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed)  
- Detailed Description  
- Claim(s)  
- Abstract of the Disclosure
4.  Drawing(s) (35 U.S.C. 113) [Total Sheets 10]
5. Oath or Declaration [Total Sheets 1]  
a.  Newly executed (original or copy)  
b.  Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63(d))  
(for continuation/divisional with Box 18 completed)  
i.  DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)  
Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s)  
named in the prior application,  
see 37 CFR 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).
6.  Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76

**ADDRESS TO:**  
MS Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

7.  CD-ROM or CD-R in duplicate, large table or  
Computer Program (Appendix)
8. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission  
(if applicable, all necessary)  
a.  Computer Readable Form (CRF)  
b. Specification Sequence Listing on:  
i.  CD-ROM or CD-R (2 copies); or ii.  Paper  
c.  Statements verifying identity of above copies

**ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS**

9.  Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s))
10.  37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement (when there is an assignee)  Power of Attorney
11.  English Translation Document (if applicable)
12.  Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449  Copies of IDS Citations
13.  Preliminary Amendment
14.  Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503)  
(Should be specifically itemized)
15.  Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)  
(if foreign priority is claimed)
16.  Nonpublication Request under 35 U.S.C. 122 (b)(2)(B)(i).  
Applicant must attach form PTO/SB/35 or its equivalent.
17.  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

18. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in the first sentence of the specification following the title, or in an Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76:

 Continuation     Divisional     Continuation-in-part (CIP)    of prior application No.:

Prior application information: Examiner \_\_\_\_\_

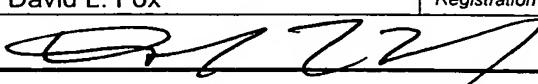
Art Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

For CONTINUATION OR DIVISIONAL APPS only: The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which an oath or declaration is supplied under Box 5b, is considered a part of the disclosure of the accompanying continuation or divisional application and is hereby incorporated by reference. The incorporation can only be relied upon when a portion has been inadvertently omitted from the submitted application parts.

**19. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS**

 Customer Number: \_\_\_\_\_ OR  Correspondence address below

Name	FULBRIGHT & JAWORSKI L.L.P. David L. Fox				
Address	1301 McKinney, Suite 5100				
City	Houston	State	TX	Zip Code	77010-3095
Country	US	Telephone	(713) 651-5151	Fax	(713) 651-5246

Name (Print/Type)	David L. Fox	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	40,612	
Signature			Date	March 1, 2004

**Utility Patent Application Transmittal**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. ER509321505US, in an envelope addressed to: MS Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: March 1, 2004

Signature:  (Colby S. Delgado)22859 USPTO  
10/7/02 94  
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# FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2004

Effective 10/01/2003, Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

 Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

**TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT** (\$ 689.00)

 Check     Credit Card     Money Order     Other     None

 Deposit Account:

Deposit Account Number: 06-2375

Deposit Account Name: Fulbright &amp; Jaworski L.L.P.

The Director is authorized to: (check all that apply)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Charge fee(s) indicated below   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Credit any overpayments |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charge any additional fee(s) or any underpayment of fee(s)                             |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee to the above-identified deposit account. |   |

## FEE CALCULATION

### 1. BASIC FILING FEE

Large Entity    Small Entity

Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1001	770	2001	385	Utility filing fee	385.00
1002	340	2002	170	Design filing fee	
1003	530	2003	265	Plant filing fee	
1004	770	2004	385	Reissue filing fee	
1005	160	2005	80	Provisional filing fee	
<b>SUBTOTAL (1)</b>		<b>(\$)</b>		<b>385.00</b>	

### 2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE

Total Claims	49	-20** =	29	x	9.00	=	261.00
Independent Claims	4	-3** =	1	x	43.00	=	43.00
Multiple Dependent							

Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Description	Fee Paid		
1202	18	2202 9 Claims in excess of 20			
1201	86	2201 43 Independent claims in excess of 3			
1203	290	2203 145 Multiple dependent claim, if not paid			
1204	86	2204 43 ** Reissue independent claims over original patent			
1205	18	2205 9 ** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent			
<b>SUBTOTAL (2)</b>		<b>(\$)</b>		<b>304.00</b>	

\*\*or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

Complete if Known	
Application Number	Not Yet Assigned
Filing Date	Concurrently Herewith
First Named Inventor	Mark S. Gasaway
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Art Unit	N/A
Attorney Docket No.	HO-P02925US0

## METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)

## FEE CALCULATION (continued)

### 3. ADDITIONAL FEES

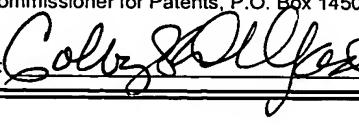
Large Entity Fee Code	Large Entity Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1051	130	2051	65	Surcharge – late filing fee or oath	
1052	50	2052	25	Surcharge – late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
1053	130	1053	130	Non-English specification	
1812	2,520	1812	2,520	For filing a request for ex parte reexamination	
1804	920*	1804	920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
1805	1,840*	1805	1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
1251	110	2251	55	Extension for reply within first month	
1252	420	2252	210	Extension for reply within second month	
1253	950	2253	475	Extension for reply within third month	
1254	1,480	2254	740	Extension for reply within fourth month	
1255	2,010	2255	1,005	Extension for reply within fifth month	
1401	330	2401	165	Notice of Appeal	
1402	330	2402	165	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
1403	290	2403	145	Request for oral hearing	
1451	1,510	1451	1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
1452	110	2452	55	Petition to revive – unavoidable	
1453	1,330	2453	665	Petition to revive - unintentional	
1501	1,330	2501	665	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
1502	480	2502	240	Design issue fee	
1503	640	2503	320	Plant issue fee	
1460	130	1460	130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
1807	50	1807	50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)	
1806	180	1806	180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
8021	40	8021	40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
1809	770	2809	385	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))	
1810	770	2810	385	For each additional invention to be examined (37CFR 1.129(b))	
1801	770	2801	385	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	
1802	900	1802	900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	
Other fee (specify)					
*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid		<b>SUBTOTAL (3)</b>		<b>(\$)</b>	
				<b>0.00</b>	

SUBMITTED BY		(Complete if applicable)	
Name (Print/Type)	David L. Fox	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	40,612
Signature		Telephone	(713) 651-8231
		Date	March 1, 2004

### Fee Transmittal

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Dated: March 1, 2004

Signature:  (Colby S. Delgado)

Application No. (if known): Not Yet Assigned

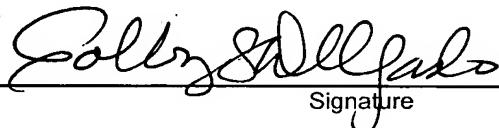
Attorney Docket No.: HO-P02925US0

## Certificate of Express Mailing Under 37 CFR 1.10

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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on 1 March 2004  
Date



Signature

Colby S. Delgado

Typed or printed name of person signing Certificate

Note: Each paper must have its own certificate of mailing, or this certificate must identify each submitted paper.

IDS (Citation) by Applicant